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HONORING THE BERLOFSKYS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 1996

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I honor two good friends and neighbors, Miriam and Jerome Berlofsky, who are celebrating 35 years of marriage this November. The Berlofskys are active and vital citizens in my home community of Co-op City.

Since 1951, Jerome has been a knight in the Fraternal Order Knights of Pythias, Kingsbridge Lodge No. 810, and participated in many of the altruistic endeavors of that organization. Miriam joined the Pythias Sisters in 1960 and has worked tirelessly in many capacities, culminating in her election as grand chief of the State of New York in 1984. The Berlofskys have always been active in their faith as members of the Traditional Synagogue of Co-op City and holding several important positions. They are charter members of the AARP Co-op City chapter and they bring culture and entertainment to the community as members of the Bronx Concert Singers.

This is just a partial list of the many good deeds performed by the Berlofskys. Perhaps more than anything else, however, they are most proud of the enduring love and the joy they have had in raising their son, Rodger. On this special occasion I want to join with their family and friends in wishing them happiness and good health.

CONGRATULATING GERIC HOME HEALTH CARE, INC.

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 1996

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute GERIC Home Health Care, Inc. This outstanding business which is located in my congressional district was recently selected to receive the Entrepreneur of the Year Award. I am proud to extend my congratulations to GERIC's founders, Gwen and Eric Johnson, as they mark this outstanding achievement.

The Entrepreneur of the Year program was founded by the professional services firm of Ernst & Young. The program recognizes entrepreneurs who have demonstrated excellence in such areas as innovation, financial performance, and personal commitment to their businesses and communities.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to note that GERIC Home Health Care received the Entrepreneur of the Year Award in the area of social responsibility. Since the company's inception 4 years ago, this mother and son team has demonstrated a sincere commitment to improving the Cleveland community.

GERIC is now the fastest growing home health care agency in northeast Ohio. The

company provides services such as skilled nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and social services. GERIC has been able to provide critical jobs and job training opportunities throughout the greater Cleveland area. Equally important, the company has provided high quality health care services to some of our most vulnerable populations.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that my colleagues will join me in saluting Gwen and Eric Johnson, and members of the GERIC Home Health Care family. I am proud of their selection for the Entrepreneur of the Year Award and I am pleased to recognize their efforts.

TRIBUTE TO SOUTH COUNTRY LIBRARY IN BELLPORT, NY

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 1996

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to the South Country Library in Bellport, Long Island, which is celebrating the centennial of its founding this year.

The Bellport Library was originally organized in 1897 because of the foresight and enthusiasm of 14 young women who called themselves the Entre Nous Club. Seeing the need for a library in their bustling seaside village, the Entre Nous Club raised money by sponsoring a reception in the home of one of its members, Mrs. Spencer S.W. Toms. Each member brought with them a book—60 books were collected that day—forming the nucleus of the Bellport Library.

In 1919, village residents met at the home of Mrs. Charles E. Osborn to plan a memorial in honor of local soldiers and sailors who sacrificed their lives in World War I. It was decided to build a new library building and dedicate it to the fallen soldiers. The seed money raised at a block party was used to incorporate the Bellport Memorial Library Association in 1920. Mrs. Frederick Edey opened her playhouse to hold benefits for the library, Mrs. Edward Bok of Philadelphia, a summer resident, gave \$1,000 toward the library building, and Mrs. J.L.B. Mott donated the property.

The charming library building became a reality in 1923, at a cost of \$8,000, and stood on the site of Capt. Thomas Bell's apple orchard. In 1924, the library was registered under the New York State Board of Regents. In 1926, the memorial tablet was dedicated and a portrait of Mrs. Mott was hung above the mantel.

During the 1950's the library association was extended to include all residents of the South Country School District. Then in 1986, the library moved to its modern building on Station Road and changed its name to the South Country Library to reflect its service to the entire school district.

In 1997, the library will celebrate the centennial of its organization and on August 17, 1996, a centennial fundraising event is being held to launch a season of celebratory programs at the library.

During the past 100 years, the South Country Library has maintained a strong commitment to scholarship. Occupying small quarters in its early days, the library has grown in both scope and size since 1897. With the dedication of its founders, the hard work of the board

of trustees, librarians, and staff members, it has become a wonderful resource for the school district and entire community. We must continue to promote literacy and education throughout Long Island. With the help of the South Country Library, we can continue to achieve these goals as we move into the next century.

CLUSTER RULE STATEMENT

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to speak today, along with many of my colleagues, regarding the cluster rule for the pulp and paper industry and specifically the EPA's July 15 Federal Register notice.

America's forest and paper industry ranges from state-of-the-art paper mills to small family-owned saw mills. In New York State, the industry plays an integral role in keeping and creating jobs. This industry ranks in the top half of manufacturing industries in the State, representing over 5 percent of the work force. Employing 62,300 workers, the timber business carries a payroll of \$1.9 billion and will expend a total of \$263 million for upgrading operations.

The original cluster rule, as proposed in 1993, would have jeopardized over 33 mills nationwide, the loss of 21,500 direct mill jobs and 86,000 additional jobs, for a total of 107,500 American jobs lost. This was clearly unacceptable.

Over the past 3 years since the cluster rule was proposed, many of us have closely monitored its development. I have always urged creation of an alternative approach that will not destroy jobs or the economic well-being of the vital timber industry. With the recognition of the need for this approach, I commend the EPA for the work which has been done to present a more balanced option of the cluster rule and urge quick approval of this alternative approach.

We must continue to support the pulp and paper industry in this country by encouraging the implementation of this fair cluster rule. Specifically, I support the option that allows the complete substitution of elemental chlorine with chlorine dioxide. This alternative, known as best available technology option A, will provide virtually the same level of environmental and health protection as the original approach the Environmental Protection Agency introduced in 1993.

The EPA's own research demonstrates that the main difference between these two options is the exorbitant costs associated with the earlier approach. Improving the environment remains an immediate concern. However, the original cluster rule proposal goes beyond what is necessary to protect the environment and the public. We must be careful not to endanger workers and their families. Option A protects both jobs and our environment.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support option A and encourage using this opportunity to rectify the unnecessary costs associated with the original cluster rule proposal. This Government, with this Congress' support, must put forward a final regulation which will assure a more responsible approach to environmental health